

## Letter from Alexander Graham Bell to Mabel Hubbard Bell, July 13, 1883, with transcript

Alexander Graham Bell to Mabel (Hubbard) Bell. L Scott Circle — Washington, July 13th, 1883. Dear little May:

I suppose you have bought your horses by this time and your carriage will be on its way to Oakland tomorrow. The only other thing wanted is the harness. Let Perrin send me all necessary particulars and I will buy harness here and forward with the carriage.

Remember I don't want you to ride in the carriage till I return. Don't let the children go either. The horses have not been in harness for a long time and are both quite young. Let Perrin drive them alone for two or three hours every day so as to exercise them and become accustomed to their peculiarities — whatever they may be. I enclose a note received this evening from Major Lydecker (one of the Commissioners of the District) with copy of my reply. I don't know what you will say to it. I must say I would like to take some active part in Educational matters — but am afraid to do so at the present time. The newspapers have been of late down on the School Trustees — and I feel that such a position would prove a most thankless one. After all I may be able to do more good by being independent of everyone — then if I were hampered by an official position.

I think I told you that I had informed the Treasurer of the Garfield Mem. Hosp. that you intended to give \$1000. I will send a cheque for your signature.

In paying for your horses you better write out a cheque. I would send you one but the cheque books are at the Bank and I can't get them till tomorrow. Miss Carrie Wood — the teacher from Rochester, N. Y. 2 takes her first lesson in V. S. from me tomorrow and I have invited Mrs. Hull (the mother of the Alexandria boy) to come also.

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Your loving husband, Alec. Mrs. A. G. Bell, Oakland, Md. P. S. I send summer number of Graphic and Illust. London News — and McMaster's History of American People for Maurice. Have you read the new "No Name Series" novel — Princess Amelia? It ends well — shall I send it? AGB. Kiss for Kiss for Elsie Daisy X X